

Message Text

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43

ACTION SMI-01

INFO OCT-01 NEA-14 ISO-00 ABF-01 FSE-00 SCI-06 DRC-01

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R 010823Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1653

UNCLAS COLOMBO 2733

E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: OSCI, CE

SUBJ: SMITHSONIAN/SFCP - TRAVEL OF GERRITT DAVIDSE AND LUCIANO
BERNARDI

REF: STATE 208147

1. EMBASSY PERCEIVES NO OBJECTION TO TRAVEL TO SRI LANKA OF GERRITT DAVIDSE. HIS PRESENCE HERE, HOWEVER, WILL RESULT IN TOTAL OF THREE FOREIGN AND ONE LOCAL RESEARCH SCHOLARS WORKING IN SRI LANKA UNDER SMITHSONIAN AUSPICES THROUGH END OF NOVEMBER. ACCORDING TO SMITHSONIAN COORDINATOR POPHAM, THIS NUMBER REPRESENTS FULL CAPACITY HIS OFFICE IS ABLE TO HANDLE AT THIS TIME, GIVEN LIMITED FLOOR SPACE, SMALL NUMBER OF PROJECT VEHICLES, AND LOCAL FIELD PERSONNEL. ACCORDINGLY, POPHAM HAS ASKED EMBASSY TO REQUEST SMITHSONIAN TO LIMIT FURTHER TRAVEL OF RESEARCH PERSONNEL AT LEAST UNTIL BEGINNING OF DECEMBER. IN PARTICULAR, HE HAS BEEN INFORMALLY NOTIFIED OF INTENDED TRAVEL TO SRI LANKA OF PROF. LUCIANO BERNARDI OF THE JARDIN BOTANIQUE, GENEVA, UNDER FLORA PROJECT AUSPICES. POPHAM ASKS THAT SMITHSONIAN REQUEST BERNARDI TO DELAY ARRIVAL UNTIL END OF YEAR IN ORDER FOR HIM TO DERIVE FULL BENEFIT OF LOCAL FACILITIES.

2. PLEASE LET US KNOW WHAT SMITHSONIAN PLANS TO DO RE BERNARDI TRAVEL.

VAN HOLLEN

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NNN

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